

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW PIGMY *ORYZOMYS* FROM THE SANTA MARTA
REGION OF COLOMBIA.

BY OUTRAM BANGS.

Mr. W. W. Brown Jr.'s collection from Santa Marta, Colombia, contains series of two species of pigmy *Oryzomys*. I have sent specimens of both species to Mr. Oldfield Thomas, who has, with great kindness, compared them with the material in the British Museum. One species is *O. dryas humilior* Thomas, originally described from Bogotá. The other, although near *O. fulvescens* Allen and Chapman, from Jalapa, Mexico, proves to be new. Of *O. dryas humilior* Mr Brown took twelve specimens, all at Macotama (alt., 8000 ft.). Of the new form he took ten specimens at Palomina (5000 ft.), Pueblo Viejo (8000 ft.), and San Miguel (7500 ft.).

The two forms are very different; *O. dryas humilior*, the larger, may always be known by its darker colors and rich fulvous under parts. The new form may be known from the following description:

***Oryzomys navus** sp. nov.**

Type from Pueblo Viejo, Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, Colombia. No. 8107, ♂ adult, coll. of E. A. and O. Bangs. Collected March 26, 1898, by W. W. Brown, Jr. Altitude, 8000 feet.

General characters.—Apparently nearest *O. fulvescens* Allen and Chapman from Jalapa, Mexico, differing in longer tail, smaller ears, paler, more yellowish coloration and purer white under parts. Skull not showing any marked differences from skulls of other members of this group,

* *Navus*, diligent, active.

although slightly different from that of the *O. dryas* group (see Thomas, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., 7th ser., II, 1898, p. 267).

Color.—Upper parts tawny ochraceous, lined with brownish black-tipped hairs, which are most numerous on top of head and on middle of back, but more scattering on rump; lower sides and upper surface of arms and legs paler and more mixed with buffy; under parts white, the hairs pale gray at base on center of belly only, while on throat, neck, and under surface of legs they are white to the base; ears dark brown; feet and hands whitish; tail very long, nearly naked, dusky above, dull grayish white below.

Measurements.—The type, ♂ adult, total length, 193; tail vertebræ, 115; hind foot (with claw), 20; ear from notch, 14. The two largest individuals from San Miguel measure—No. 8223, ♂ adult, total length, 200; tail vertebræ, 115; hind foot (with claw), 22; ear from notch, 13; and No. 8225, ♀ adult, total length, 200; tail vertebræ, 115; hind foot (with claw), 22; ear from notch, 13.

Skull, the type, ♂ adult, basal length, 17.6; zygomatic width, 11.6; mastoid width, 9.2; interorbital width, 3.8; length of nasals, 7; length of upper molar series, 3.2; length of mandible, 11.2.

Remarks.—There is a slight individual variation in color among the ten specimens of *O. navus*, due principally to the greater or less number of black-tipped hairs scattered along the back and head—some specimens being more nearly clear tawny ochraceous than the type.

The species of pigmy *Oryzomys* form a compact group of closely related forms, many of which may prove only subspecifically distinct from one another, but until their relationships are better understood it seems well to give the new form full specific rank.